

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-13 and 16-18 are pending in this application. Claims 16 and 18 are currently amended. Claims 14-15 and 19-20 are withdrawn from consideration in view of the restriction requirement. No new matter is added.

Restriction Requirement

A restriction requirement has been imposed against the claims of the instant application. The Examiner contends that the claims describe several different inventions: Group I (claims 1-13), drawn to a method for preparing optionally substituted {N-[1-(S)-carbalkoxy-3-phenylpropyl]-S-alanyl-2S, 3aR, 7aS-octahydroindole-2-carboxylic acid}; Group II (claim 14), drawn to a crystalline polymorphic form A of trandolapril; Group III (claim 15), drawn to a crystalline polymorphic form B of trandolapril; Group IV (claims 16 & 17), drawn to a method of preparing polymorphic form A of trandolapril; Group V (claim 18), drawn to a method of preparing polymorphic form B of trandolapril; Group VI (claim 19), drawn to a method of

preparing polymorphic form A of trandolapril; and Group VII (claim 20), drawn to a method of preparing polymorphic form B of trandolapril.

Applicant elects to prosecute Group I (claims 1-13).

Please note that claims 16-18 have been rewritten to depend from claim 13 (Group I). Applicant respectfully requests that claims 16-18, as now amended, be considered as part of Group I and be examined at this time. It is asserted that no additional burden will be imposed upon the Examiner by the inclusion of these claims to Group I.

Further, Applicant traverses the restriction of: A) Group IV and Group VI; and B) Group V and Group VII. With regard to the former, A) Groups IV and VI, and based upon the Examiner's explanation, there is no difference, they are drawn to the same invention and the same class. Therefore, these Groups should be combined. Likewise, with the latter, there is no difference, and those Groups should be combined.

Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications from this application.

An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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